

Once jute sector made profit: President

President Abdur Rahman Biswas Wednesday called upon the industrial workers to increase output in the mills and factories to make the country economically self-reliant, reports BSS.

The future progress of the country largely depend on industrial and agricultural development and all concerned must put in their sincere efforts to increase production in these two important sectors for attaining national self-reliance," the President told a large number of workers and labour leaders of Adamjee Jute Mills when they called on him (President) at the Bangabhaban.

The workers were led by the president of Adamjee Jute Mills unit of Jatityatabadi Sramik Dal, Abul Khair Khwaza. The President said the glory of golden fibre produced in Bangladesh should be revived to fetch more foreign exchange for the country. He pointed out that jute as a traditional product of the country earned both foreign currency and international fame through the ages and said pragmatic steps should be taken to regain the world market of jute.

President Biswas advised the workers of Adamjee Jute Mills to increase production in their mills, the biggest jute industry in the world.

He said there might be some alternative to jute goods but the jute fibres still have the potentiality for different purposes since it is free from environmental hazards.

Referring to the golden days of jute products during the period of President Ziaur Rahman, President Biswas said the jute sector at that time earned profit and the workers received extra incentives.

The President said that the production units including the Adamjee Jute Mills should be turned into profit making organisations by which the jute sector could restore its glory.

He urged all irrespective of opinions to extend their cooperation to the government to keep the development efforts unhindered.

President Biswas assured the workers that their problems would receive due consideration provided the workers of the mills devoted their skills to make their units profitable.

Earlier, the leaders of the delegation placed before the President a memorandum regarding their problems.

Among others, Giasuddin Kalu, Mosharrif Hossain and Kamal Hossain, all the leaders belonging to the Jatityatabadi Sramik Dal Adamjee Mills Unit, were present.

Bangladesh Beverage gets Pepsi-Cola award

By Staff Correspondent

Pepsi-Cola International has awarded Bangladesh Beverage Industries Ltd the bottlers of Pepsi-Cola in Bangladesh, Quality Award -92 for Asia Division.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Affairs Sadeq Hossain Khoka at a press conference in Dhaka Wednesday presented the award trophy to Amanullah Miah, Managing Director of the Bangladesh Beverage Industries Ltd, on behalf of the Pepsi-Cola International.

The press conference was attended by the Director (Technical) of the Pepsi-Cola International.

LGRD projects reviewed

A review meeting on Annual Development Programmes (ADP) of Rural Development and Cooperatives Division of LGRD and Cooperatives Ministry was held in Dhaka Wednesday with the LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdus Salam Talukder in the chair, reports BSS.

The meeting discussed the progress of its different projects.

The ministry has undertaken as many as 18 projects on rural development. Taka 75 crore and 62 lac has been allocated for these projects.

The projects are aimed at the socio-economic development of the rural people.

Above 50 per cent progress has already been achieved till April and it is hoped that 85 per cent progress would be achieved by the end of the current fiscal year.

The meeting decided to take necessary steps to expedite the progress of the projects.

It was attended by the Secretary of Rural Development and Cooperatives Division Hassan Abdul Hye and the high officials of the ministry and the departments concerned.

Power generation for vast area at stake Tankers stop oil supply to Khulna power plant over rift

Power generation by the Khulna Power Station (KPS) is at stake owing to disruption in furnace oil supply from petroleum marketing companies, reports UNB.

Three oil companies — Padma, Meghna and Jamuna — which supply petroleum products to Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation across the country are facing difficulty in sending furnace oil to the power station amidst a transportation deadlock.

Sources concerned said owners of oil tankers stopped carrying oil to KPS protesting the delay in unloading two vessels anchored in the Rupsa river near the power station on May 13 on objection that the furnace oil contained excess water and sediments.

Power stations are run by petrochemical products and natural gas. Since there is no gas connection to Khulna, KPS is run by furnace oil. Closure of the station will disrupt power supply to vast areas of the region, hampering treatment and development works.

The two tankers have been moored at a jetty near the power station since May 13 as the chief chemist of the power station objected to unloading, saying the furnace oil contained excess water and sediments.

He further suggested that these tankers be removed and furnace oil brought in from Chittagong by other ships.

also being used by the Khulna Newsprint Mills and other government organisations.

According to rules, before unloading an oil tanker loaded with furnace oil or kerosene, diesel from the Chittagong refinery, the samples from top, middle and bottom are examined in the power station.

But, in the past, samples were collected from KPS pipeline, and one or two months after unloading a ship, KPS claimed that the furnace oil contained one per cent water and sediments.

Owners of oil tankers alleged mismanagement, anomalies in sampling of furnace oil and inefficient handling while unloading oil in the Khulna Power Station and demanded an enquiry.

Chittagong Port may engage private parties for security

From Nurul Alam

CHITTAGONG, May 27: Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) is contemplating a switch-over to private security arrangement in a bid to arrest the trend of rampant pilferage of goods from the port area, official source said.

Goods worth about Taka four crore on an average are pilfered from the port in a year despite the presence of port security, sources added.

Talking to this Correspondent the Director (Traffic) of Chittagong Port Authority Mohsin Sarkar said that the authority had to settle a large number of claims made both by importers and exporters every year against the pilferage of their goods.

He added that rampant cases of pilferage from inside the port's protected areas not only had caused financial losses and embarrassment to

the port authority but were also tarnishing the image of the country's major port.

The authority is trying to go for private security system at Chittagong Port in order to come out of this situation, Sarkar said.

Besides pilferages the port officials face terrorism from mastans who desperately enter the port's protected area frequently to force payment of illegal tolls and officials, if refuse to pay, are subjected to harassment and assault, he informed.

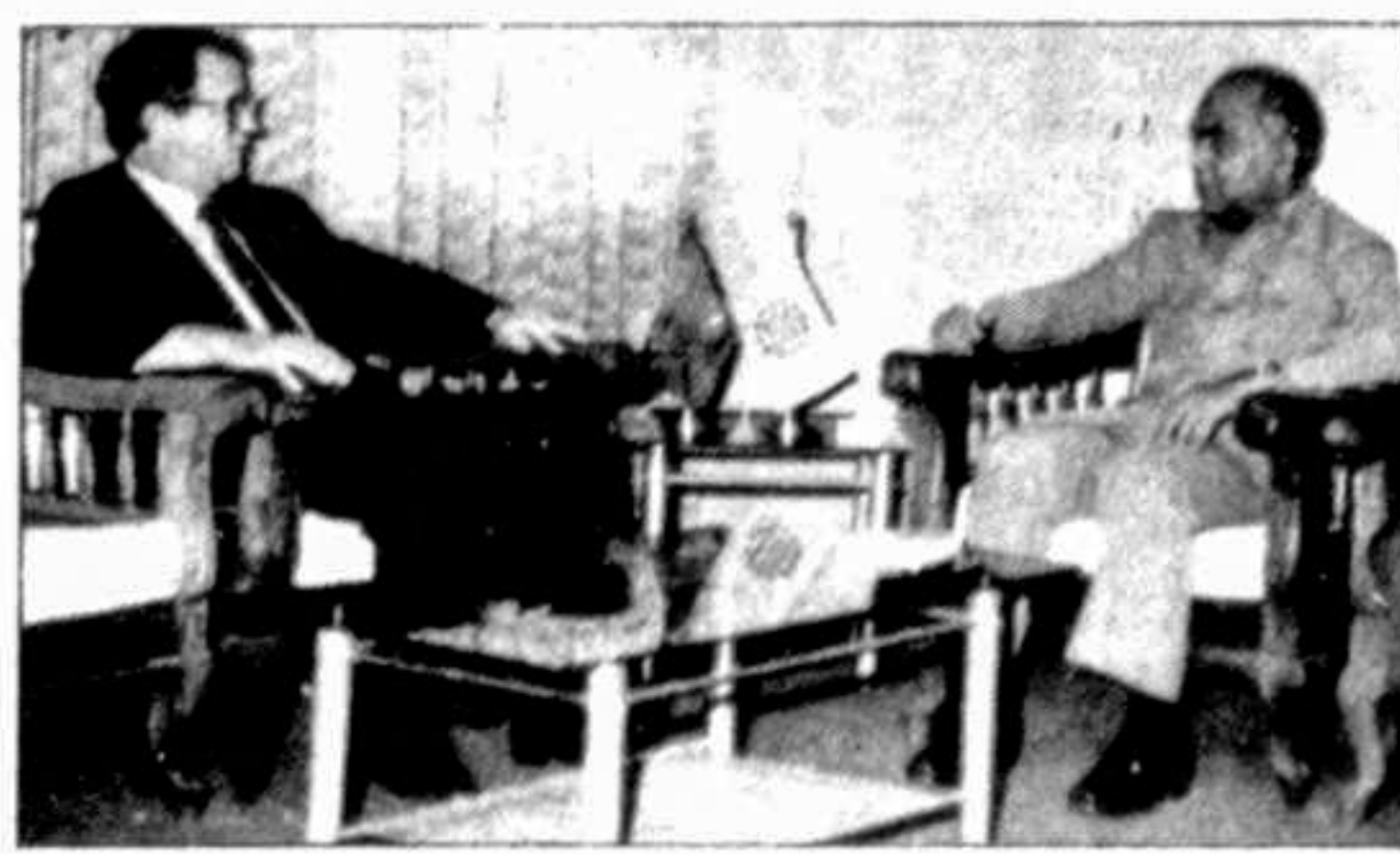
Meanwhile, two committees were constituted to study the matter of engaging private parties for security arrangements inside the port's protected areas. And the result of the study will be available shortly, sources said adding that after final assessment of the investigation reports which are likely to favour pri-

private security system, the authority would try to evolve modalities for involving the private parties.

The authority is planning to go for such an alternative security arrangement also for the reason that the present strength of over 1000 security personnel of the port hardly can cope with the situation in maintaining the safety of cargo, officials said.

It is alleged that often the cargo owners have to remain in tension fearing a pilferage of their goods from inside the port sheds by a section of unscrupulous people in connivance with some security personnel. The stolen goods are sold in the markets at cheaper prices, sources added.

The Chittagong Port handles around eight million metric tons of cargo yearly carried by over 1200 vessels.



Emile Gauvreau, High Commissioner of Canada in Bangladesh called on Mahbubur Rahman, President of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) on Tuesday at the FBCCI office. They discussed issues of common interests, including de-regulation and financial sector reforms now being pursued by Bangladesh.

Technical training for more manpower advised

Noted scientist Dr. M. A. Wajed Miah Wednesday stressed the need for increasing efforts for training more technical manpower, reports BSS.

Addressing as the chief guest the certificate giving ceremony of a training course at Atomic Energy Centre Dhaka, Dr. Wajed, who is the Director of the Centre, said, "We need more and more technical hands for rapid industrialisation of the country."

Dr. Wajed said the Atomic Energy Centre was doing people-oriented research for the socio-economic development of the country.

He said the findings of research of the centre were di-

rectly applied for development of agriculture, industry, medicine and trade and commerce of the country.

Dr. Wajed distributed certificates among the participants of the three-month practical training course on industrial and workshop practices organised by the centre.

Thirty-five trainees of Bangladesh-German Technical Training Centre, Mirpur participated in the course.

The function was also addressed by M. Asaduzzaman Talukder, Vice-Principal of the Bangladesh-German Technical Training Centre, and M. Abdul Khaleque, Principal of the Technical Training Centre, Mirpur.

Shipping Intelligence

Chittagong Port

Table with columns: Berth No., Name of Vessels, Cargo, Last Port, Local Agent, Date of Leaving Arrival. Lists various ships and their schedules at Chittagong Port.

Vessels due at outer Anchorage

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Date of Arrival, Last Port, Local Agent, Cargo, Loading port. Lists vessels at outer anchorage.

Vessels at Kutubdia

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Cargo, Last Port, Local Agent, Date of Arrival. Lists vessels at Kutubdia.

Vessels at outer anchorage

Table with columns: Name of Vessels, Cargo, Last Port, Local Agent, Date of Arrival. Lists vessels at outer anchorage in categories like 'Ready on', 'Vessels not Ready', etc.

Movement for Vessels for 28/05/92

Table with columns: Outgoing, Incoming, Shifting. Lists vessel movements for the date 28/05/92.

Tea prices go down further

By Staff Correspondent

Tea prices went down further as export demand remained limited at this week's auction sale held in Chittagong on Tuesday last.

According to a Unity Brokers market report, prices declined by between Taka two to Taka three. Export demand remained unchanged compared to the previous week forcing a large quantity of bolder brackens to be withdrawn.

The sole export buyer, for one of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), held strict limits for the larger well-made brokens. Pakistan lent nominal support with the local buyers absorbing a fair quantity at lower rates.

In the Leaf category, 12,117 packages were offered at the sale. Of the quantity, 47 per cent remained unsold while internal traders bought 34 per cent and export buyers fetched 19 per cent.

In the Dust category, 2,937 packages were offered at the sale. Internal buyers purchased 40 per cent, export traders bought 12 per cent while the remaining 48 per cent of the sale was withdrawn.

Following is the category-wise market performance report as prepared by unity brokers:

CTC: Brokens in general lost further by about Taka two compared to last week's level with heavy withdrawals in the medium and plainer categories.

Fannings, however, saw a better demand than the brokens but prices in general were lower by Taka one to Taka two than the previous rates.

others went down, by Taka one to Taka two with fair withdrawals towards the close of the sale.

The next auction sale (No. 6) will be held on June 2 in Chittagong and the total offerings will comprise about 15,000 packages of Leaf and 3,200 packages of Dust.

Price Index table for May-27, listing various commodities like Rice, Vegetables, Spices, etc. and their prices.

Hides & Skin table listing various types of hides and skins and their prices.

Gold & Silver table listing prices for gold and silver.

Dhaka Stock Prices

At the close of trading on May 27, 1992 Star Economic Report

Turnover continues to fall

The fall in the value of trading at Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) continued on Wednesday though number of papers traded doubled the previous.

In all, 14,697 papers changed hands against Tuesday's 7,775. The transactions valued at Tk 889,911.25 compared to Tuesday's trading valued Tk 932,052.25.

Only 19 stocks were traded on the day. Gainers dominated the floor. They outnumbered the losers 11 to six. Three papers were traded at their previously quoted prices. For the third consecutive day no debentures were traded.

The DSE Composite Index continued climbing and stood at 303.4419.

THE DAY'S TRADING AT A GLANCE

Table showing DSE All share Price Index, Market capitalisation (Tk), Turnover (in value Tk), Turnover (in volume).

Table listing Gains and Losses for various stocks like Citic Cement, Apex Tannery, Bextimco Pharma, etc.

Table listing Traded at previous quoted prices for shares like B Thai Aluminium, Eastern Cables, etc.

SHARES & DEBENTURES LISTED WITH DSE

Large table listing various shares and debentures with their respective prices and market status.

Table listing Exchange Rates for various currencies like US dollar, Pounds sterling, etc.